

## 131 Journeymen approved by Foreign Mission Board

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board approved 131 young adults for training as missionary journeymen during its April meeting in Indianapolis. Four are from Mississippi.

All college graduates (or graduating this spring) age 26 and under, the journeyman candidates expect to work for two years alongside Southern Baptist career missionaries in 52 nations.

Those who receive medical clearance and successfully complete the five-week training period beginning June 8 at Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C., will be commissioned for service July 15.

The Mississippians are:  
**Terry Dent:** Assigned as a teacher in Johannesburg, South Africa. Most recently employed as a teacher in Clinton, Miss. Current address: 525 W. Cedar Hill Dr., Holly Springs, Miss. 38635. College: Mississippi College.



Ferguson

Dent



Keyes

Harrington

## Singing in S.A.

In Argentina, bitter feelings are dispelled

By Bill Sellers

Sunday afternoon of April 17, in the Miami International Airport, twenty-five Mississippi Singing Churchmen gathered from several different originating points out of Mississippi. It was at this time everyone surrendered his airline ticket to our Missions Tour Coordinator, Perry Robinson, in order that we could check in with Varig Airlines, be assigned seats, and clear through customs for our flight to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

We arrived the next day in Rio and took our required tour there while getting over the "jet-lag." After spending the night we continued on to Buenos Aires, Argentina, stopping 45 minutes in Sao Paulo, Brazil to have one engine of our airplane worked on.

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen were invited by the Argentine, Uruguayan Missions and our SBC Foreign Mission Board to make a mission tour to these countries as part of the Rio de la Plata-Mississippi Partnership effort.

Upon arriving in Buenos Aires we were met by three of our missionaries who helped get us cleared through customs. (Continued on page 3)

Clinton, B.S. '81. He was a summer missionary in Vermont. Church: First Baptist, Clinton. Son of Pattie T. Dent of Holly Springs and the late Robert P. Dent. He was born in Jackson, Miss., and he has also lived in Corinth, Miss. He considers Holly Springs his hometown.

**Tom Ferguson:** Assigned as a youth (Continued on page 4)

## Chapel Bells to ring in Pitt.

The Chapel Bells of First Baptist Church, Starkville, will ring on Sunday night and Monday night, June 12-13, in Pittsburgh at the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference. They also rang for the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference in Houston, Tex., in 1978, and are the first handbell group to be invited to perform at this conference for a second time. (Photo, page 4.)

The 12-member Chapel Bells have traveled extensively in 22 states and Washington, D.C., ringing concerts. In 1978 they toured Brazil for 17 days at the invitation of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC. They were an invited musical attraction at the Kiwanis International Convention in Toronto, Canada, in 1979. Their concert tour this year will take them into seven states. They will participate in the SBC Handbell Festival.

First Baptist Church, Starkville, has one of the largest music ministry enrollments in the state of Mississippi. The program consists of 18 choral groups and 6 handbell groups of which the Chapel Bells is the most advanced.

C. Truitt Roberts is minister of music and director of the tour group. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and has done additional study at Memphis State University. He serves as chairman-elect of Area VI of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.

In Uruguay, group presents handbells gift

By Jeanie Benfield

About two years ago my husband, Joe Benfield, music missionary to Uruguay, asked me, "Hey, Jeanie, what do you think about the Singing Churchmen coming to Uruguay?" "Huh?! The who?," I asked intelligently.

"You know the Mississippi Singing Churchmen, a group of SBC musicians made up mainly of ministers of music from Mississippi." Joe explained and then asked, "Don't you think it would be exciting to have them on tour in Uruguay?"

So the possibility of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen coming to Uruguay was presented. The Uruguay Baptist Mission (group of SBC missionaries in Uruguay) approved the request wholeheartedly for this group to take part musically in the Rio de la Plata-Mississippi relationship.

For the next two years the name Mississippi Singing Churchmen became a daily household word. Joe, national music promoter for the country, was coordinator for the Churchmen's schedule while in Uruguay. As time (Continued on page 3)

# The Baptist

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## Power shortages

# Disaster funds go to aid in South African drought

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has sent \$55,000 to South Africa for victims of what some call the region's worst drought in a century. Others call it the worst in history.

The board sent \$50,000 to South Africa to be used with \$40,000 raised by South African Baptists for food distribution in the Natal province and in the independent homeland of Ciskei. Another \$5,000 went to Bophuthats-

wana, another independent homeland within South Africa. Southern Baptist missionary nurse Carolyn Roberson will use the money for food distribution, malnutrition clinics and a program of gardening and chicken production at her clinic in Morokweng.

The impact of the drought, which also affects Botswana, South West Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Zambia, continues to spread. Subsistence farmers who have already lost

crops to drought find imported grain more scarce because the drought has cut production in Zimbabwe and South Africa, major grain suppliers in the area.

Cattle—a mainstay of the economy in much of the region—fall prey to the drought as grazing lands dry up.

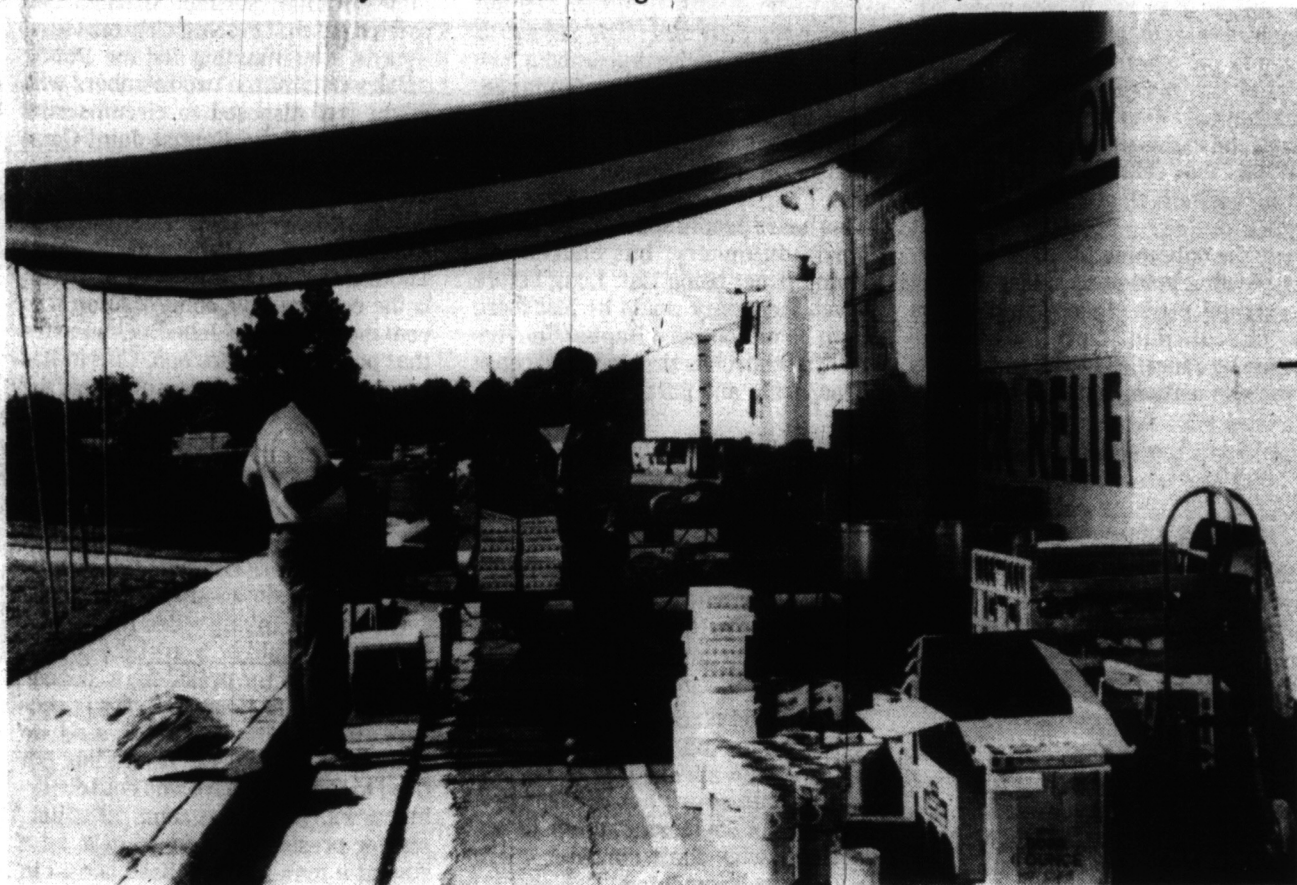
Reservoir levels have fallen so low that some power plants have cut their production by as much as 60 percent. Besides sending recent aid to South

Africa and Bophuthatswana, the Foreign Mission Board is sponsoring a major development project in the drought-stricken Gokwe region of Zimbabwe, where people had been reduced to eating weeds and grass seeds.

Louisiana Baptists have committed volunteers and other aid to the project for the next three years. One of their first acts was to commission the construction of a drilling rig and send it on its way to the water-starved region.

## Spring rerun

Mississippi Baptists are ministering to victims of the current flooding in Jackson where approximately 700 people were reported to have water in their homes. The Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Van was called into service Sunday afternoon and served more than 800 meals that first evening to victims and workers. The unit was on the parking lot of Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, where it was during the 1979 Easter flood. The unit was to continue in service through the week. For the first time, an effort is being made by Mississippi Baptists to have trained counselors on hand in the flood area. In other areas of the states, reports of Baptist-related damages were sketchy. Plymouth Baptist Church in Columbus was reported to have been flooded. A more complete summary of Baptist flood ministries will be in next week's paper.



## Draper comments on Vegas, the "fun" of presidency

By Tim Nicholas

In an interview with the Baptist Record last week, Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Draper responded to questions about Las Vegas as a convention site, the difficulties that Baptist editors face, and commented that being president of the denomination was "a lot of fun."

Draper, pastor of First Church, Euless, Tex., was at Emmanuel Church, Grenada, last week, joining Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board on the program for an association evangelism rally. The association invited reporters to talk with Draper.

Draper said he gets many invitations to speak to the secular world and

explain Southern Baptists. "I enjoy trying to tell that story," he said. "That we ever get anything done is a miracle. We've not bound together but we cooperate. . . . We're normal people with a real desire to serve God."

Draper said that the current controversy over the SBC Executive Committee's recommendation to make Las Vegas the site of the 1989 convention is unfortunate. "There is no reason Southern Baptists should not go to Las Vegas . . . we've got people there (ministering) . . . yet there's every reason not to go," says Draper, citing adverse public relations as a recurrent reason for opposition. "Opposition spans every group you can name," he said. However, "I personally feel if I'm going to send Ernie (Continued on page 3)

## Inerrantists to launch no new strategies

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The inerrancy faction of the Southern Baptist Convention is expected to conserve previous gains but launch no new strategies at the 1983 annual meeting of the 13.9 million member denomination.

"We really don't have much agenda for Pittsburgh," said Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, and a leader of a movement to turn the convention and its agencies to a more conservative stance. "We hope Pittsburgh will be a reasonably peaceful convention."

With an incumbent president generally sympathetic to their views, a very conservative slate of nominees to serve on SBC boards and previously-passed, strongly conservative statements on abortion, doctrinal integrity, belief and support of the Constitutional amendment on school prayer already in place, the inerrancy faction is not expected to launch any new battles, but merely to react to challenges to these gains.

Incumbent President James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas, who says he is a believer in the inerrancy of the Bible, but has tried to be open to all elements of the denomination, is expected to win unopposed re-election to a second term.

He will be supported by the inerrancy camp, as will be John Sullivan, current first vice president and pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church of Shreveport, La., who may be nominated to a second term, a departure from SBC tradition which generally allows vice presidents only one term.

The faction also is expected to support Tal Bonham, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, Columbus, as second vice president. Gene Garrison, current second vice president and pastor of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, is not expected to run for a second term (Bonham has disavowed being any faction's candidate.)

Another item expected to gain the group's support in Pittsburgh is any effort to discipline the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D. C., which has continued its opposition to the prayer amendment.

One way is in the support of the committee on boards report, which nominated two conservatives to the SBC's Public Affairs Committee (the group which relates to the BJCPA, composed of nine Baptist bodies).

"If the board of trustees cannot control them (and keep) them from misrepresenting the views of Baptists to the public and the government, then the only alternative is to defund it," Patterson said, adding he does not believe the BJCPA "has represented conservative concerns."

Although there is no formal agenda, the faction also is expected to support a resolution on support of Israel, to oppose proposed bylaws changes which would require disclosure of the names of appointees 45 days in advance of the convention, and to support any effort to further clarify the Dale Moody issue at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"We don't have anything to do with it, but there is indication the Dale Moody thing at Southern might not be dead," Patterson said. He referred to a controversy concerning the views of Moody, a veteran SBTS professor, on apostasy, or falling from grace.

The Arkansas Baptist Convention passed a resolution calling for Moody to be fired. Southern trustees granted him a paid leave of absence for 1983-84, but ended his teaching assignments at the end of the current semester. Moody, 67, has taught on a year-to-year extension since he reached 65.

The inerrantist movement began in the denomination about 10 years ago, born of the concern of some persons that denominational institutions were becoming more liberal in theology. It surfaced in the 1979 annual meeting, with Patterson and Paul Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge, its visible leaders.

"Contrary to popular expectation, we did not set out to cause a rupture," Patterson said. "We felt it had taken a long time for the denomination to drift away from its historic position . . . and we could not reverse that overnight. We deliberately chose not to cause a big upheaval on the floor of the convention, but to work within the existing framework to try to bring about changes."

Pressler and Patterson have publicly said they intended to use the (Continued on page 2)

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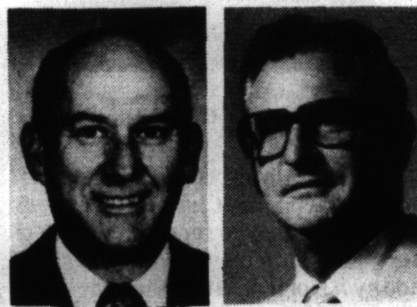
## McDaniel, Watson to lead in sessions of WMU meet

Major McDaniel, Mississippi native and now a music missionary to Korea, will lead the music for the 1983 national Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union in Pittsburgh, Pa., June 12-13.

McDaniel will also lead the music for WMU's first national Prayer Conference, Saturday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This conference is a new addition to regular Annual Meeting format. Early arrivals for the June 14-16 Southern Baptist Convention are invited to attend the prayer effort.

Harold Watson, also from Mississippi and now a missionary to the Philippines, will be a featured speaker in the Monday afternoon general session. Watson will speak on meeting human need in the Philippines. He is slated to serve as agricultural missionary in residence working through the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Department.

To accommodate convention-goers



McDaniel



Watson

who cannot get to a Southern Baptist church, WMU will host a Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m.

There will be a special commissioning service for HMB church planter apprentices in the Sunday general session.

All annual meeting and prayer conference events will be held at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel, downtown, except for Monday night's general session, which will be held in the Stanley Theatre.



The Mississippi Singing Churchmen stand outside an Argentine television station as they prepare for a program.



Missionary John McNair, a Mississippian, is surrounded by young people at a church in Uruguay following a concert by the Mississippi Singing Churchmen.



## Editorials

## SBC—fixed on Jesus

As time draws near for the Southern Baptist Convention, as is always the case, the statements of concern regarding one matter or another become more prevalent.

The Southern Baptist conventions (notice the small "c") are much like a pendulum. That description is used advisedly, for the dictionary says of a pendulum, "A body so suspended from a fixed point as to swing freely to and fro under the combined action of gravity and momentum."

That is exactly the circumstance of Southern Baptist conventions. The small "c" is used because the Southern Baptist Convention is over with the final "amen," and there is not another one until the next year. The use of the little "c" is in speaking of the conventions collectively.

Somehow, in all of the goings-on we seem to have lost sight of what the convention is. It is a meeting which takes place once a year and covers a three-day period. That's all it is. We are Southern Baptists, but to say we are members of the Southern Baptist Convention may not be accurate. We may be one year and not the next. It depends on whether or not we are elected as messengers from our churches and if so whether or not we attend the convention.

To say that churches are members of the Southern Baptist Convention is even more erroneous. In the first place, the only thing to join is a three-day meeting held once a year. And in the second place, there is no way a church can join. Only individuals elected by churches are integral parts of the convention. In that case, even

membership is not a good word. Many use the term "affiliated" is speaking of the relationship of a church to the convention, but even that is stretching the point. A church cannot be affiliated with something as non-existent as a Southern Baptist convention between annual sessions. The only true statement of circumstances is that a church may choose to cooperate with the purposes, aims, practices, and projects of Southern Baptists as they are enunciated through the annual sessions.

More and more people are seeming to want to define the organism that is Southern Baptists as a denomination—which we are not. We cannot be as long as we are following the dictates of the constitution as it is now stated. Each of us who calls himself a Southern Baptist is simply a member of a church that is choosing to cooperate in Southern Baptist ways as described above.

So 20,000 people could show up one year and vote to do something. The next year 20,000 different people could show up and vote to do something completely different. The figure of 20,000 is used because that is about how many generally are in attendance. There would be a possibility of having more than 70,000 messengers.

So the pendulum swings back and forth.

One hears people speak of the loss of church autonomy, but church autonomy is not being lost. Long before church autonomy would be lost there would be no Southern Baptist Convention. The churches simply would cease to cooperate and participate.

The problems that have beset Southern Baptists in recent years have not been related to the annual meetings but instead have centered around control of the institutions. Years ago Southern Baptists decided they wanted to educate their young people, particularly those who would be studying for the ministry. For awhile the big discussion revolved around how that education was to be carried out. One group supported the idea that professors should be left free to search the scriptures and for their revelations. The other group said in effect, "No, teach the scriptures in this fashion." Actually, neither side was wrong in its concept, but they couldn't come to an agreement.

This year the action is building around control of the Public Affairs Committee, which has input in the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. This agency serves eight Baptist groups, but some Southern Baptists want Southern Baptists out of it. Needless to say, Southern Baptists provide most of the support for the agency. In that situation, perhaps it should be pointed out that the SBC Committee on Boards is nominating for the Public Affairs Committee two members who might feel disposed to circumscribe the efforts of the Baptist Joint Committee if not to do away with it altogether.

The two are Albert Lee Smith of Birmingham, Ala., and Samuel Thomas Currin of Raleigh, N.C. Smith is the conservative congressman who beat the incumbent John Buchanan for that post a few years ago. Currin has served on the staff of Jesse Helms, the

conservative senator from North Carolina. He is being recommended as chairman of the Public Affairs Committee, though he has not served on it before. At this point he is serving in a federal position at the behest of President Ronald Reagan.

These are the only two nominees for the Public Affairs Committee.

And so we are spending some amount of time trying to determine whether or not we should have certain agencies and institutions and if so how they should be run.

Perhaps that is in order. We had to decide whether or not we wanted those agencies and institutions in the first place. In the case of the Baptist Joint Committee we decided we wanted it and have been happy with its service for many years. The problem has come with the selection of a new executive director, James Dunn. Dunn spoke to the Mississippi Baptist Convention a couple of years ago and received a standing ovation. Yet there are those who want to withhold funding from the agency because Dunn is the head of it.

Without commenting on whether or not Dunn is making a good executive director, it must be remembered that he will not always be in that position. It does not seem to be the better part of wisdom to do away with an institution or seriously cripple it because of one man who eventually will be gone. He is temporary, no matter how long he stays. The agency will live on after him if left to do its job.

As the pendulum swings back and forth from the force of whatever momentum is moving it, let's be sure that our fixed point is Jesus Christ.



Ralph Noonkester, president of William Carey College, presents a diamond necklace to Evelyn McClure, from the faculty of the college, and then joins in applause for Mrs. McClure, who is retiring after 37 years as chairman of the school's Home Economics department. The presentation was made during a coffee for Mrs. McClure on May 6.

## FACES AND PLACES

## "Life is . . . a splendid torch"

"Life is not a brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment and I want it to burn as brightly as possible before handing it to all its future generations." This idea from George Bernard Shaw is the theme that Evelyn McClure said she wanted to get across to her students at William Carey.

Mrs. McClure retired this month after 37 years as professor and head of the home economics department which she established, a tenure unsurpassed at the school. Friday mornings for 30 years she and her students had given a coffee for the faculty, but on Friday, May 6, the faculty gave a coffee for her.

The pale peachy pink punch echoed the pink of candles and roses. Its recipe, I learned, was a McClure original, one she intends to include in a cookbook she'll finish writing in retirement and call *Eliza's Cookbook*, after her mother—"She was a very good cook." (The punch: ½ gal. vanilla ice cream; 2 cans frozen lemonade; 2 or 3 large cans peach High C; 1 qt. ginger ale.)

"Keep studying" and "Be a good citizen" have been two of my goals. That's me," Mrs. McClure told me as I reached for another frothy cupful.

She was born in Fayette, Ala. After earning a B.S. from Mississippi Southern (now USM) and M.S. from University of Tennessee, she was offered a scholarship to Cornell, but she had met Wayne McClure in Tennessee, and chose marriage instead. (Later she did 30 hours of study beyond the master's degree.)

When she had finished a year of teaching at University of Tennessee, she moved in 1946 to Hattiesburg, I. E. Rouse, president of Mississippi Women's College, (which she joined in 1947) had asked her to come and set up a home economics department. The change-over to William Carey came in 1953, so she has been present for all the school's history under that name.

"She has been an influence on the whole student body, not just her department," said Ralph Noonkester, Carey president, on May 6. "For instance, these Friday coffees have contributed tremendously to faculty unity. And Mrs. McClure has directed commencement rehearsals. As college hostess, she has decorated for

banquets, and many other campus affairs. She lived before us what she was teaching. Perhaps the highest praise I could give her is this—she could take a small budget and do great things with it; she would not go around fussing about what she could not do, but demonstrated to the students how to do much with little. Of even more importance than the length was the quality of her personal service, seen in the development of most attractive homemakers."

Her marriage and family life courses have been popular with both male and female students. She has been sponsor of *The Crusader*, the college annual, since 1957. "I like to read," she said. "I like to entertain. And I think the good Lord put flowers here for me to arrange!"

Does anything annoy her? Yes—"lazy people."

She recalled, "I think it was in the fifties that I wrote a note to Dr. Noonkester expressing my love for William Carey College. I told him our greatest asset was academic freedom in a Christian college."

Her two sons are former teachers (coaches) and they married teachers. Wayne is president of Wholesale Lumber Co., Slidell, La. (his wife teaches home economics), and Worthy is with an insurance company in Biloxi. Two of three grandchildren are named for Michele Elaine, her daughter who died in a car accident in 1969 while a senior at William Carey.

A member of Main Street Baptist Church, Mrs. McClure currently teaches Sunday School in the Singles department.

"The Lord directed my coming here, and my staying," she asserts. "Life time friendships have been a reward of remaining in one place." And the job was a creative one, she said. It never became boring. "Every year was more stimulating than the last, never routine. I was always studying to keep up with what was new in home economics. I always felt like 'You want to top your last try' every time I did something new."

Poised, gracious, cordial, loving. Those words describe dark-eyed, dark-haired Evelyn McClure. Hard working, creative, and caring. Holding high the splendid torch, and passing it on to others.

## Draper has served well

As the Southern Baptist Convention approaches, it becomes more and more apparent that there will be no one nominated for president of the convention to oppose a second term for Jimmy Draper.

That is good. In the first place, it would be folly to nominate someone else, for such a candidate would not win. There have been presidents who have served only one term, but it was because of their own choosing. There may never have been a president who was defeated for a second term if he chose to let his name be presented.

In the second place, Draper has done a creditable job. He has succeeded in being open and approachable, and he has been fair and has gone to great lengths to use correct procedures in his committee appointments. The Mississippians who are his appointees on committees are outstanding persons. Readers will recall that for the committee on committees he appointed John Brock, pastor of Van

Winkle Church, Jackson, and Harry Vickery, an automobile dealer in Greenville. For the resolutions committee he appointed Joan Tyler, the wife of a Collins physician.

In the third place, Draper has tried hard to be a good president. Perhaps he more than anyone else in the convention framework has the ear of all segments of Southern Baptists as well as those who don't consider themselves to be segmented.

He has made mistakes, but that seems to be a problem that faces at least the majority of us. He has acknowledged his mistakes when he has been aware of them.

This publication has not come out to suggest a vote, or a president by name before. The fact that we have failed to do so has not won us a great host of friends, because there have been many promoting certain ones for president. That is fine, and we have no quarrel with their interest in those in whom they have confidence. We have

felt that we were not called on to take sides in such situations.

We are not taking sides now. But I feel that it would be a mistake to propose a person for president to oppose Draper. He has done well. He is conservative in his theology, and he makes no apology for it. He has not tried to shut out others who hold differing views. To propose some other person for president would seem to be a slap at a man who has been honest in his position statements and who has not used his office to further his own causes. It would also seem to say to the conservatives (or fundamentalists, whichever they should be called) that they are going to be opposed no matter what they do.

The use of the word "they" does not signify a "me" and "them" condition. For the record, let it hereby be noted that I consider myself as conservative in my approach to theology as anyone involved in the controversy, but I do not consider myself in the camp of the activist conservatives. Neither do I

consider myself in the camp of the activist "moderates," or whatever it is that they are supposed to be called.

The point is that we have a good man by all of the signs that we are able to read. We have nothing else to go on but to seek a word from the Lord. If there is to be a step toward healing at this particular time, it would seem that the reasonable move would be to re-elect Draper.

Whether one more year would be enough time is speculative. If Draper will continue in his present direction, however, we do have that much time if he is re-elected.

In these last days before the convention, it has been interesting that both sides have declared that the state papers have been unfair toward them. The Baptist Record, and I feel all of the others would be the same, has not knowingly been unfair to either. Perhaps if both have feelings of unfairness, we have been in the middle, which is where we belong.

## Letters to the Editor

## Furlough forthcoming

Editor: We have heard that the importance of mail from home is in direct proportion to the distance from home. So since we live half way around the world from our home state of Mississippi, news from home is very important to us. And the news we receive about our Mississippi Baptist friends in the Baptist Record is most welcome to us! Even though we receive the issues several months after they are published because of boat-mail schedules, we nevertheless enjoy reading each one. We even keep them and share them with other fellow Mississippians who may come our way from time to time.

We will begin a four-month furlough this fall (Sept. 26 to Jan. 31), and for the third time we will live in the missionary home of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson. Two of our pastors were in Hinds County (Raymond Baptist Church and Oak Forest Baptist

Church) before our 11 years at Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church in Meridian, so we feel very much at home there. We look forward to seeing many friends while we are there, and to visiting as many of our churches as possible. Our furlough address will be 715 E. Northside Drive, Jackson, Ms. 39206 and our home phone number will be (601) 362-9063.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and for your support through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering? The Seminary where we teach is just one of many around the world where young people are being trained for the ministry, and your support makes you partners in our efforts.

Bob and Mary Simmons  
Missionaries to the Philippines

## Shared blessing

Editor: In this day and time when people are so busy and absorbed in their own problems, incidents happen that we need to share with our fellow man. I am the recipient of just such a blessing and I want to tell you about it.

I am a member of Tucker's Crossing Baptist Church in Jones County, and our pastor is Brother Eddie Bryant. I am on disability and have no family. My house was in such need of repair it was practically unsafe to live in.

My pastor, the Brotherhood, the Y. W. A. and G. S., and all the members in general contributed money, materials, and labor so now I have a nice, comfortable pretty home.

I thank God every day and night for these special people and wanted to share my experience with you.

Tucker's Crossing Church folks are a caring, loving, group of Christian people.

Genevieve Johnson  
Ellisville, MS

## Love for state paper

Editor: The Baptist Record was indelibly impressed in my mind at a young age, many years before my own family became a subscriber through the family plan of Slidell Baptist Church.

For as long as I can remember, when we would go to Hazlehurst to visit my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John L. James, arriving late on Saturday nights, there was always a much-read Baptist Record by my grandmother's bedside.

Needless to say, this fond memory of my grandmother and her love for our state paper enhances the pleasure and blessing I receive each week. I especially enjoy "Faces and Places."

Thank all of your staff for the time and effort that keeps the Baptist Record a paper worth remembering.  
Doris (Mrs. Donald) Stone  
Holly Springs

## Eternal security

Editor: I have almost finished reading the Bible through three times. Regarding once saved, always saved, I wish to call your attention to Ezekiel 18:26, "When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die."

Elizabeth Camp  
Meridian

## Third World evangelist

Editor: Rejoice with us. The Lord has and is blessing us in the Clarke Association. I am so happy to report that a check for \$2,000 is to be written and mailed today (April 6, 1983) to The Billy Graham Association for Amsterdam '83.

All the \$2,000 was given by churches and individual members of churches in the Clarke Association. Two thousand dollars, as you are aware, is the estimated cost to send one evangelist from a "Third World" country to Amsterdam, July 12-21, 1983, to receive special training in sharing his faith with people in his home country.

Grady Crowell  
Director of Missions  
Clarke Association

## Help to locate Joe Ivey

Editor: The homecoming committee of Bond Baptist Church, Bond, Miss., is trying to locate Joe Ivey, a former pastor of our church. We would appreciate it very much if the Baptist Record could help us by placing an article asking if anyone knows Bro. Ivey's whereabouts. Anyone with any information can write to me.

Mrs. Ervane Jarrell  
Homecoming Committee  
chairman  
Bond Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 734  
Bond, Miss. 39550

## Appreciation from

## New Hope

Editor: We, the pastor and people of New Hope Church, Marion Association, wish to thank Paul Harrell and the Disaster Relief Teams that came from many churches to help us in our time of need. Your response to our need meant more than words can ever express.

I want to thank you also for your coverage to our area and church during these very trying days.

We were at a loss of where to begin and just what to do, and with your help we were able to begin to put things back together again. I am proud to be a part of something as great as Mississippi Baptists. I am proud of the way our sister churches responded to the call to come and help us in our need. May God continue to use each of us to do His will. His work.

Again thank you. May God bless each one who had a part.  
Bobby Smith, pastor  
New Hope Baptist Church

The above letter is referring to the recent flooding conditions in South Mississippi.—Editor

Some fellows pay a compliment like they expected a receipt.—Kin Hubbard

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# Associational leaders consider BMT goals

Mississippi goals for Bold Mission Thrust for the church year of 1983-84 were considered by about 500 associational directors of missions, associational officers and committee persons, and staffs of state areas of work during a meeting earlier this month at Alta Woods Church, Jackson.

Such a meeting is held each year for the presentation of the goals established for the state and to provide the occasion for the separate entities of work to establish their own goals as a means of reaching the overarching goals.

The major goals are established by the administration of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in January of each year and presented to the organizations of work that are involved at a staff retreat during the month.

Three statewide objectives and the goals established to reach them are outlined below.

## Reach People . . .

### Goals

To assist churches in increasing Bible study for enrolling 10,000 new members in Sunday School in 1983-84.

To assist churches in the spread of the gospel resulting in 18,000 baptisms by September 30, 1984.

To assist churches in establishing 36 new churches by September 30, 1984.

To assist churches in establishing 100 points of witness by September 30, 1984.

To assist 1,700 churches to increase percentage giving through the Cooperative Program.

To assist churches in seeking out the called and supporting 25 newly appointed missionaries by September 30, 1984.

To assist churches in seeking out the called and supporting 1,500 short-term Mission Volunteers by September 30, 1984.

To assist churches in having 200 mission revivals by September 30, 1984.

## Develop Believers . . .

### Goals

To encourage 1,969 churches to be involved in regular prayer support of Bold Mission Thrust.

2. To assist churches in training 17,000 members to be bold witnesses in their own localities.

3. To assist churches in increasing their Church Training enrollment by 7,000 in 1983-84.

4. To assist churches to begin 200 new units of discipleship training in Church Training by September 30, 1984.

5. To assist churches in equipping members as follows: Earn 40,000 study course awards. Register 13,000 persons at assemblies and camps.

6. To assist churches in enrolling 4,000 new members in the Missions Organizations by September 30, 1984.

7. To assist 1,250 churches to engage in emphasis to develop Christian stewards in 1983-84 for mission support. Strengthen Families . . .

### Goals

1. To encourage and assist churches to enlist 16,000 family units who will be committed to family worship and Bible study in the home in 1983-84.

2. To encourage and assist 350 churches in electing Church Family Life Committees by September 30, 1984.

3. To encourage and assist 1,000 churches in observing Christian Home Week by September 30, 1984.

4. To encourage and assist 500 churches in providing Christian Family Money Management Conferences by September 30, 1984.

As a part of the effort to reach the major goals, other departmental goals than those established as indicated above were noted. For instance, the Cooperative Missions department established a goal of aiding 30 black churches by training black Vacation Bible School workers.

The Evangelism department noted that last year 331 churches did not report any baptisms. The department will urge each church to have at least two well-planned revivals and train 10 percent of their Sunday School attendance in personal witnessing.

The Sunday School department adopted a goal of establishing 51 new Sunday Schools during the year.

The Brotherhood department will endeavor to involve more than 1,500 lay persons in missions projects outside the state during the year.

The emphasis for the year for the Woman's Missionary Union will be two-pronged: prayer and ministry.

The annual Baptist Doctrine Study for 1984, an emphasis of the Church Training department, will be the doctrine of the Holy Spirit.

The Church Music department will encourage every church to have a music talent survey and plans to conduct a leadership retreat designed to prepare youth leaders for training and working with youth.

## The Chapel Bells



The Chapel Bells of First Baptist Church, Starkville, will ring June 12 and 13 at the Southern Baptist Music Conference in Pittsburgh, Penn. (Story on page 1.)

It is always a great mistake to command when you are not sure you will be obeyed.—Mirabeau

## Journeymen . . .

(Continued from page 1)

and children's worker at First Baptist Church, Balboa, Panama. Most recently employed as student music assistant at Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss. Current address: Southern Station, Box 5720, Hattiesburg, Miss. 39406-5720. College: University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, B.M.E., '83. He was a summer missionary in Virginia and New York. Church: Temple Baptist, Hattiesburg. Son of M/M Jerry A. Ferguson of Gulfport, Miss. He was born in Alliance, Ohio, and has also lived in Keflavik, Iceland; North Kingstown, R.I.; Newport News, Va.; and Long Beach, Miss. He considers Hattiesburg his hometown.

**Anne Harrington:** Assigned as an encounter minister at Friendship House, Kobe, Japan. Current address: Box 546, Houston, Miss. 38851. College: Blue Mountain (Miss.) College, B.A., '83. She was state BSU president and was a summer missionary in Alaska and Thailand. Church: Lowrey Memorial Baptist, Blue Mountain. Daughter of Wanda H. Harrington of Houston and D. L. Harrington Jr. of Aberdeen, Miss. She was born in Houston.

**Jeff Keyes:** Assigned as assistant to the mission business manager/treasurer in Gaborone, Botswana. Current address: 1401 Post Rd., Clinton, Miss. 39056. College: Hinds Junior College, Raymond, Miss. A.S. '79; Mississippi College, Clinton, B.S.B.A. '81. He was a summer missionary in Taiwan. Church: First Baptist, Jackson, Miss. Son of M/M John W. Keyes of Clinton. He was born in Jackson and has also lived in Philadelphia, Miss. He considers Clinton his hometown.

## Supreme Court will look at city nativity scenes

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Supreme Court announced April 19 it will decide if local governments may erect Christmas nativity scenes without violating the constitutional principle of separation of church and state.

Two lower federal tribunals, the First Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Court for Rhode Island, held earlier that the city of Pawtucket, R.I., violated the constitution's ban on an establishment of religion by erecting a nativity scene as part of its traditional Christmas display.

But over the past several years, state and federal courts elsewhere have handled similar challenges by

# capsules

## Peace Sunday

Paul Jones, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, will be featured speaker for Peace Sunday, May 29, in Jackson.

The event is an interfaith effort to focus the attention of the religious community on war as a moral issue.

Activities began at 4 p.m. with prayer and song at Smith Park in downtown Jackson and continue with a walk around the new Capital building.

The program ends with a 5 p.m. service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral with Jones' address. Theophilus King of Faith Presbyterian Church will be worship leader and the Voice of Calvary fellowship choir will lead in song.

Peace Sunday in Mississippi is part of a nationwide weekend of worship and witness sponsored by Evangelicals for Social Action, Pax Christi, Sojourners, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Baptist Peacemaker, the National Council of Churches, and other denominations and religious groups.

## Mission questions

An unofficial United Methodist magazine has published a report calling into serious question the operation of the mission board of the United Methodist Church.

Good News magazine claims the board is spending nearly a third of its income on administration, while claiming to spend only 12 percent; employing more staffers in its New York office than career overseas missionaries; and abandoning its historic priority to convert persons to Christianity, and instead concentrating on saving the world through "liberation theology" and other political solutions.

## Marijuana appeal

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected an appeal from a member of a small sect which maintains the use of marijuana is indispensable to its faith.

In refusing to hear the appeal of Clifton Ray Middleton, who belongs to the tiny Ethiopian Zion Coptic Church, the high court let stand a decision by a federal appeals panel last year that the government has a "compelling interest" in regulating and controlling the drug, which outweighs the free exercise of religion claimed by Middleton.

## Romanian crisis

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Baptists in Romania face a leadership crisis but still express their faith with vibrancy and vitality, R. Keith Parks said after visiting churches in the eastern European nation.

The Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board president estimated within five years Romanian Baptists could lose 60 of their 200 pastors to retirement. Some pastors already lead five, eight—one as many as 13—of Romania's 600 Baptist churches.

Because of government restrictions, only 5 of 100 applicants to the Baptist Seminary in Bucharest were allowed to enroll last year.

Public religious expression is limited almost entirely to worship services, Parks said.

## Tapes for blind

North Carolina Baptist Men announced a new ministry in the April issue of *World Mission Journal*. As of this month, each issue of the Baptist men's publication is available on cassette tape for the visually handicapped.

David Langford, North Carolina Brotherhood director, says the *Journal* on cassette tapes will be sent free to any visually impaired person anywhere who requests it.

Marshall Collins, pastor of Green Street Baptist Church in High Point, N.C., is producing the tapes. Collins' wife, Sarah Lynn, has been recording Royal Service on tape for visually handicapped Baptist women during the past year.

Anyone interested in this ministry may contact David Langford, North Carolina Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 26508, Cary, N.C. 27611.

## Army chief

VERONA, N. J. (EP)—Norman S. Marshall, commander of the Eastern Territory, with headquarters in New York City, has been named national commander of The Salvation Army in the United States.

He succeeds to the position held by John D. Needham, who died April 13.

As national commander, he will head an organization operating more than 11,000 religious social service centers throughout the United States.

Fear isn't cowardice. Cowardice is failure to fight fear. The weakling feels fear and quits. The man of courage feels fear and fights.—Arnold Glasow.

# CSM gives "a caring touch in the name of the Lord"

By Tim Nicholas

In 1980, with the number of churches requesting help with food and clothing increasing as unemployment rose, Lauderdale Baptist Association began development of a Christian social ministries program.

Director of missions Leon Young says the weekly pastors' conference discussed the needs, which included finding help for those in disasters such as tornadoes.

Young had been for six years chairman of the health and human services committee for the Meridian Chamber of Commerce and came to know what the secular agencies were doing. Though a number of staffers were doing it on a personal basis, "I felt it (social work) needed a caring touch in the name of the Lord."

At that point the Lauderdale missions committee brought in Gladys Farmer, former CSM director in Montgomery and David Myers, CSM director for Hinds-Madison association. He discussed the Hinds-Madison program and she came to do a feasibility study, speaking with housing and community agencies and with hospital social workers. Foy Rogers, now retired from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff, along with Home Mission Board staffers offered advice and information.

As a result of that study, the associational administrative committee invited Charlotte Herrington, half-time Baptist Student Union director for Meridian Junior College and Mattie Hersey Hospital, to work full time for the association, adding Christian social ministries to her responsibilities.

The association opened its crisis closet behind its offices in north Meridian and Mrs. Herrington began de-

## Missionaries on furlough

Missionaries now on furlough in Mississippi are:

Major and June McDaniel, Korea, 818 Main St., Natchez; John and Elizabeth Merritt, Germany, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; John and Sarah Perkins, France, 5137 McCoy Drive, Jackson; Karl and Peggy Wallace, Peru, 715 East Northside Drive, Jackson;

Richard and Martha Beal, Venezuela, 416 Ford, Columbia; Bob and Flora Holifield, Italy, 2334 Coronet Place, Jackson; Raymond and Ann Kolb, Brazil, 117 Trailwood Drive, Clinton; James and Zelma Foster, Surinam, 4233 Carter Circle, Jackson; Harold and Joyce Watson, Philippines, 919 Reaves St., Jackson.

veloping ministries in the fall of 1980.

The crisis center operates through referral from churches and community agencies and is open 9-11:30 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. "We try to find out if they're church-affiliated, try to have prayer and give them tracts," says Mrs. Herrington of her customers.

Other ministries related to the CSM program include development of a transportation system to get women to the hospital for cobalt treatments, and a friendship program between Baptist families and international students. There's been an orientation program with 12 families so far.

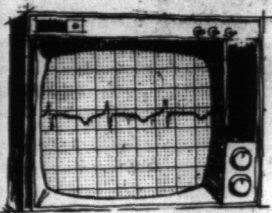
The Baptist Student Union has been talking about doing a mission Vacation Bible School in one of the area's housing projects and each of the housing projects could use Bible club work, says Mrs. Herrington.

The association sponsored a revival at a nursing home, and groups take birthday items and make visits to East Mississippi State Hospital.

"Our churches are so mission-minded anyway," says Mrs. Herrington, "they were already doing lots. CSM just brings in additional opportunities."

Young admits that churches have not given the "wholesale response necessary" to have a successful CSM program. For instance, there is still a need for pastors to visit the jails regularly, and the poverty pockets need Bible studies.

But, as one woman involved in the CSM program said once she became involved, it fills a need in her life to minister. Says crisis center volunteer Helen Rhodes, "There was a need, and there's a way we can serve."



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## Parental burnout?

We hear a lot today about burnout. Is it possible for parents to get that way? Sometimes it seems that I simply can't cope any longer. I wonder why, when parenting is supposed to be so wonderful. Do other parents ever feel this way?—Burning

Dear Burning Parent: Yes, parents do get burnout, and other parents have problems similar to yours. You are burning from the stress you feel. Hopefully you are not to the burnout stage yet.

Parent burnout may be defined as a state of physical, emotional, and sometimes spiritual exhaustion resulting from continued high stress and a feeling of tremendous responsibility. There are all sorts of pressures to be super-parents. This makes us expect too much of ourselves and our children as well. When we or they fail to meet the perfectionist standards we have set, there is frustration, guilt, and anger. Anger turned inward becomes resentment. All these emotions rob us of energy.

Sometimes the parent is truly wounded by the youth who rejects the family's religious and moral values and adopts a very different life style. Three books have been written recently that throw light on these problems: *Elkind: The Hurried Child*—growing up too fast too soon; *Greenfield, The Wounded Parent*—coping with parental discouragement; *Kieffer-Proccacci, Parent Burnout*. An interview with Dr. Proccacci was reported in the March 7 issue of U.S. News and World Report available at your public library.

Burnout can lead to health or psychological problems if the imbalances are not corrected to cut down on the demands and increase the energy

available for the task.

A few practical suggestions: (1) Do not hurry your child into adulthood. He does not have to be involved in every community, school, and church activity. Help establish priorities in reference to time, ability, and energy. (2) Do not impose upon yourself or your child the burden of being perfect. (3) Give the gift of self. Do not substitute activities or things. (4) Avoid a child-centered home. Let it be family oriented, considering the needs of all. Don't feel guilty over needing time for yourself. (5) Do not allow any child to go unloved. Give to each acceptance, encouragement, and trust. (6) Encourage openness and free communication. (7) Convey your set of moral values and leave the results with God and the child. (8) Model affection in the home by touching, giving, and sharing. (9) Always refresh them in your unconditional love and redeem quickly any brokenness in understanding or relationships. (10) Work on your own maturity. (11) Relax and have fun. Study your use of time and see when you can avoid spinning your wheels. (12) Release them to adulthood and remember they are responsible to God for themselves. Bathe the whole process in prayer and praise. Parenting should be a privilege and not a pain.

Inquiries to Intensive Care are welcomed. Readers who feel the need of being in touch with Intensive Care are encouraged to write. Identities remain confidential. And though the identities of those performing this ministry have been kept confidential to this point, they are well qualified for the service they are rendering. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.—Editor.

## Mississippi Baptist Activities

May 29 Christian Peacemaking Sunday (CAC Emphasis)

May 30

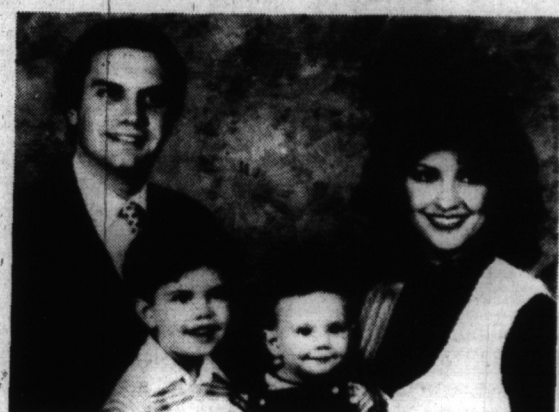
June 3 Royal Ambassador Camp Staff Week; Central Hills Retreat, Kosciusko; 10 a.m., 30th-noon, 3rd (BRO)

June 5 Religious Liberty Sunday (CAC Emphasis)

Baptist Record Day in each church (BR Emphasis)

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Thursday, May 26, 1983

# Degree programs in night school offered at New Orleans Seminary

By Nancy McGough

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—For the first time, a student can earn a degree by attending night school at New Orleans Seminary.

The master of divinity, master of religious education or associate of divinity degree can be earned in the same amount of time that it would take a student attending day classes to earn the same degree, said Joe Cothen, vice president for academic affairs. In addition, no day classes are necessary to complete requirements.

The program has been in effect for ten weeks, and the response has been "excellent," Cothen added. One hundred-thirty-two students enrolled in the first eight-week term and 178 enrolled for the second term.

"It has become apparent students are experiencing more and more difficulty in being able to make a living by working nights and part-time during the day. And it was virtually impossible for student wives who had to work to get any seminary training," Cothen observed, adding, these were two reasons for initiating evening classes.

According to Cothen the program calls for the participation of the entire faculty with each member scheduled

to teach at least one evening course per year. At a recent annual board of trustees meeting an 18 percent base salary increase was granted to the entire faculty to compensate for the extra teaching load.

At that trustee meeting approval was granted for students to audit seminary courses and a special "short form" registration procedure was adopted. This will make it easier for layworkers to enroll in classes.

Expanding the academic study programs of New Orleans Seminary is nothing new, according to President Landrum P. Leavell. "It has always been our philosophy to make seminary education accessible to as many people as possible," Leavell said.

The seminary currently has satellite programs in Shreveport and Pineville, La., Birmingham and Mobile, Ala., Tupelo, Miss., Miami, Marietta, Ga., and Puerto Rico.

Eight courses were taught during the first eight week term and ten are being taught during the second term of the "second track" program. The courses range from undergraduate level courses on religion in society; in English and Spanish, to master's level courses on the doctrine of the Holy

Spirit or contemporary approaches to religious education.

Bill Stevenson is a student who is attending night classes while looking for a daytime job. He commutes 50 miles four evenings a week from his home in Picayune, Miss. Last summer he made the decision to come to seminary. Not long afterwards, he received notice from the insurance company for whom he had worked for 15 years he would have to transfer from New Orleans or leave the company. He decided to leave.

"If you don't want an answer to prayer, you'd better not pray," he said. "Sometimes we hesitate to 'turn loose' where there's pride involved. There's a fear. But where there's a will and the call, there's a way."

Stevenson took day courses in the fall and changed to night classes in order to be able to work days, when there are more jobs available.

"I like the atmosphere of the night classes. They're more relaxed. This new schedule has certainly enlarged the opportunities for a lot of us," he said.

"It is adaptive to the times." (McGough is a writer for New Orleans Seminary department of public relations.)

## Homecomings

**Calvary Baptist Church, Pricedale:** homecoming and memorial service; June 5; Don Pendergrass, a former pastor of the church, to bring the message at 11 a.m.; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; the McKenzie family to present a program of music in the afternoon service, at 1:30; a brief memorial service to be held in honor of those who have died during the past year; a covered dish luncheon to be served at noon; Norman Crochet, pastor.

**Rock Hill Church, Brandon:** homecoming; May 29; 11 a.m. message by R. T. Lyle, former pastor; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; lunch at the church; special singing in the afternoon; James Smith, pastor; George Styron, music minister.

**Crooked Creek Baptist Church, Silver Creek:** homecoming day; June 5; Sunday school at 10 a.m.; morning worship at 11 with pastor, Ray Hodges, bringing the message; dinner in fellowship hall; afternoon service of fellowship and singing, featuring the Deacons Quartet.

**Friendship (Lincoln), near Brookhaven:** homecoming; May 29; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; morning worship at 11; old-fashioned dinner on the grounds at noon; afternoon service; Talmage Smith, who grew up in Friendship community and is a former member of Friendship Church, now pastor of Morgantown Baptist Church, Natchez, speaker for morning and afternoon services; Harold Luther Smith, music director at Friendship, leading music; Wiley Reid, pastor.

**Duffee Church (Newton County):** May 29; homecoming; Raymond Herrington, former pastor, guest speaker; lunch in fellowship hall; singing in the afternoon; James Stephens, pastor.

**Arlington (Lincoln):** homecoming; May 29; services at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; lunch served at the church; Clarence E. Young, pastor at Arlington, 1953-56, speaker at both services; special music morning and afternoon; James Jeffreys, pastor. (Young, who is now pastor of Maplewood First Baptist Church, Sulphur, La., has been a pastor of 32 years. He has a daily television program, "Abundant Living," on Channel 7, KPLC, and has led in the sign-off prayer each evening for the past ten years.)

**Johnson Creek (Greene):** homecoming; May 29; dinner on the grounds; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; lunch at 12; singing in the afternoon; Marion Ball of Isney, Ala., guest speaker; The Searchers of Laurel to present special music; revival beginning May 30. See "Revival Dates."

**Antioch (Simpson):** May 29; homecoming; Freeman Pierce, former associate pastor, to deliver the morning message; James Parker, interim pastor; dinner on the grounds; offerings to go to cemetery fund. "Anyone unable to attend who would like to contribute to the fund may address donations to Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, Rt. 1, Box 48, Harrisville, Miss. 39082," said a representative of the church.

**Goodrum Baptist Church, Vicksburg:** May 23-29; Paul Ragland, Myrtle Baptist Church, Myrtle, evangelist; music led by the church's new full-time music director, Ronnie LaCaze.

**Johnson Creek (Greene):** May 30-June 3; at 7:30 p.m.; John Merck of Lucedale, evangelist; Wayne Haselmaier, pastor.

**Concord Church, Pelahatchie:** May 29-June 3; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., plus dinner served at the church at noon; during the week at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Barry Corbett, pastor, Pelahatchie Church, evangelist; Leroy Stuart, Jr., Edwards, in charge of music; Frank Smith, pastor.



## Miracles of Baddour Center will sing at First, Jackson

The Miracles of Baddour Memorial Center will provide a music program during Church Training time at 5:45 at First Baptist Church, Jackson, on May 29. Members of this singing group are residents of Baddour Memorial Center, Senatobia. The mission of the Center is to provide a model residential community setting for mildly and moderately retarded adults in an environment that is designed to promote maximum growth mentally, physically, spiritually, socially/emotionally, and vocationally; 2) to provide a program of outreach ministry through churches to handicapped persons and their families; and, 3) to provide an example that will influence people to give of their time, talents, and money to do good for others. Having been in operation since December 1978, the center is presently serving 96 full-time residents and 13 day clients. The facility is a non-profit corporation and an agency of the North Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Some of the highlights of their performances throughout the United

States include a program in the rotunda of the Senate Building, the nation's Capitol, Oral Roberts University, Marble Collegiate Church in NYC, Crystal Cathedral in California, and most recently a trip to The Foundation for Christian Living in Mexico City. The choir has recently released its first recording, available in album, cassette, or 8-track.

## Lottie Moon correction

An amount of \$1,136.88 has been received in the business office of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, in Lottie Moon gifts from Pine Grove Baptist Church, Clarke County. This arrived after the recently published list of Lottie Moon gifts had been prepared for the Baptist Record, and so missed being included. Grady Crowell, Clarke County director of missions, states that the total Lottie Moon gifts from Pine Grove now stands at \$1,152.

## Names In The News...

John C. McInnis, Jr. has recently begun work as associate director of the Sunday School department for the

Florida Baptist Convention. McInnis, a native of Hattiesburg, is a 1970 graduate of William Carey College where he worked in the BSU office. He also served on the staff of Southside Baptist Church, Hattiesburg. He was graduated from Southwestern Baptist Seminary (MRE 1972) and upon graduation became the director of inner-city ministries for the Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, Covington, Ky. He served as minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla. He goes to the Florida Baptist Convention from the First Baptist Church, Orange Park, Fla., where he had served as minister of education since 1979. McInnis will have primary responsibility in youth education and Vacation Bible School in the Florida Baptist Convention.

Thad A. Moore, a native of Grenada, was the 1983 recipient of the William H. Collier Evangelism Award at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. Larry Baker, academic dean, presented Moore the award during commencement exercises May 14. Moore earned the master of divinity degree and received the award for excellence in the field of evangelism. He is a graduate of Mississippi College.

Pearl Valley Church, Copiah County has ordained Jay Duckworth and Ted Thomas as deacons.

Roy Wesley Davis, a native of Seminary, was recently commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force Reserve, chaplain candidate. This summer, he will be on active duty for training at Lackland AF Base, Tex. Davis is enrolled in the Master of Divinity degree program at New Orleans Seminary. He is also minister of youth at Rio Vista Baptist Church, Jefferson, La.

He was graduated in 1982 from the University of Southern Mississippi. A former U.S. Marine sergeant, he served six years with the Marine Corps.

Of the 32 Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary graduates for May 1983, the following were from the state of Mississippi: **Diploma of Theology:** James E. Clutter; **Master of Divinity:** George Gelber, Cary F. Worthington, Don Murrelle Snipes. Mid-America Seminary, in Memphis, Tenn. has received full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.



Aycock and Spencer

First Baptist Church Morton; licensed two to the gospel ministry on May 15: **Tim Aycock** and **Glen Smith**.

James Spencer, pastor, at right above, presented the certificates of license. Aycock, above left, has received a music scholarship from Clarke College and plans to enter there this fall. Smith has enrolled at East Central Junior College for summer courses.



BAPTISTS from throughout southeastern Montana gathered in Miles City, Mont., on Apr. 23, to express appreciation to area missionary, W. J. (DUB) HUGHES and his wife, Dorothy, for their efforts in beginning and sustaining churches in the area. In a ministry spanning nearly 30 years, the Hugheses, Mississippians, have begun many churches in North Dakota, Minnesota, and recently in Montana. Among those on hand to honor Dub and Dorothy were: (left to right) Roy Owen, executive director, Northern Plains Baptist Convention, Rapid City, S.D.; Rick Lumm, First Baptist Church, Colstrip; Steve Hussung, Morning Star Baptist Chapel, Lame Deer; Ronnie Mayes, First Baptist Church, Forsyth, and moderator of the Big Sky Baptist Association; W. J. and Dorothy Hughes; Marion Hogue, Miles City Baptist Church; Jerry Cumby, Hysham Baptist Church; and Wayne Martin, First Baptist Church, Glendive.

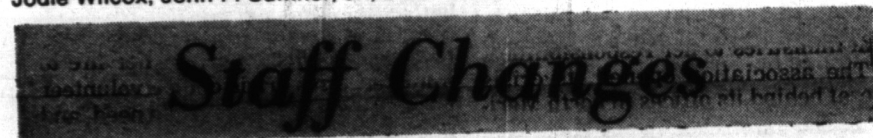


FIRST CHURCH, CARTHAGE, honored MRS. MARGUERITE GIVAN on Sunday, April 17, at a reception, at the end of her 23 years of service as general secretary and financial secretary, or almost a quarter of a century. She worked with six pastors during this time. She was presented a plaque denoting her tenure of service, a diamond watch, and a silver casserole dish. Frank Cadenhead, Mrs. Givan's brother, was recognized as having served faithfully through the years delivering the monies. Eddie Hamilton, pastor, and M. G. ("Buddy") Bond, chairman of deacons, presided. Left to right: Hamilton, Mrs. Givan, Cadenhead, Bond.

## Commissioned, Illinois-bound

Fifteen were commissioned May 1 at Jones County Junior College BSU for mission work in Marion, Ill., May 30-June 5. The team will work with Parish Park Baptist Church. Back-Yard-Bible Clubs will be conducted in four parks, and two teams will do survey work.

Two summer missionaries from the college were also commissioned. Pictured L to R, front row: Mary Lee Little, summer missionary to Colorado; Jill Miller, Sandra King, Elizabeth Smith, Loletta Phillips, Candy Sumner, Jan Jenkins. Back row: Ed McDonald Jim Huff, Daniel Hathorne, summer missionary to Indiana, Mike Miller, Glenn Padgett, Jeff Harris, Jamey Germany, Lee Winborne. Not pictured: Gay Gandy, Jodie Wilcox, John F. Sumner, Jr., BSU director.



Kenny Peavey has joined the staff of Fair River Baptist Church, Brookhaven, as minister of music and youth. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and is currently attending New Orleans Seminary.

Mary E. Brooks has assumed a position with Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia, as part-time summer minister of youth. Miss Brooks is a graduate of Poplarville High School, Pearl River Junior College, and Mississippi State University. In 1982 she was a student summer missionary to Ruschlikon, Switzerland, and in the winter of 1983 was a journeyman missionary regional participant.

Mickey Bailey, formerly of Senatobia, has joined the staff of East Baptist Church, Denison, Tex., as youth and children's church director. He received a master of divinity degree in December, 1982, from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and is also a graduate of the University of Mississippi.

Bailey

First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, have called Gordon H. Sansing as pastor. Sansing has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, since 1976. He was born in New Orleans and is a graduate of Murrah High School, Jackson, and Mississippi College, and has a doctor of ministries degree from New Orleans Seminary. Broadmoor Church, Jackson, ordained him to the ministry. He has served as a trustee of Blue Mountain College.

Sansing

Fair River Church, Lincoln County, has called Kenney Peavey as minister of music and youth.

Jim Phillips has resigned as pastor of Spring Hill Church, Copiah County. He plans to enroll at New Orleans Seminary and will be moving to New Orleans.

Highland Church, Crystal Springs, has called Max Jones as pastor.

## Metro New York gathers for Festival of Faith

NEW YORK (BP)—Nearly 3,000 Southern Baptists gathered for a four-hour "Festival of Faith" in New York City, the largest gathering of local Southern Baptists in the Northeast. The evening of celebration and fellowship at Madison Square Garden commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association.

Among the 146 churches and mission centers that comprise the Metro Association, worship is held each Sunday in 15 languages. The evening presentation, highlighted by a message by Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, was translated into Spanish, Chinese, and sign language for the deaf.

Metro Association executive director, Quinn Pugh, called the ministry conducted by New York City churches "exceedingly challenging. Obviously, we have to work at it not from the overwhelming perspective of numbers, but community by community, individual by individual," he said. "We take the 'Big Apple' one bite at a time."

"The impact of this festival is for our own people to experience the diversity and richness we share among our churches," he said.

Metro Association churches plan to start 61 new churches in the association by 1987. A survey last year determined there are 200 possible sites where residents have no access to a Baptist church. New York City has a population of 18 million, and with 146 churches and mission points, that statistic equals "one church for every 125,000 people," Pugh said.

## Missionary News

James and Linda Barron, missionaries to Ghana, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 327 N. Circle Dr., Clarksdale, Miss. 38614). He was born in Huntsville, Ala., and grew up near Clarksdale, Miss.

Alva and Rebecca Weir, missionaries to Nigeria, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Eku Baptist Hospital, PMB 4040, Sapele, Bendel State, Nigeria). He is a native of Memphis. She was born in Water Valley.

Carl and Lillian Prewitt, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Box 99, Davao City, Philippines 9501). They are natives of Mississippi.

## Revival Dates

Goodrum Baptist Church, Vicksburg: May 23-29; Paul Ragland, Myrtle Baptist Church, Myrtle, evangelist; music led by the church's new full-time music director, Ronnie LaCaze.

Johnson Creek (Greene): May 30-June 3; at 7:30 p.m.; John Merck of Lucedale, evangelist; Wayne Haselmaier, pastor.

Concord Church, Pelahatchie: May 29-June 3; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., plus dinner served at the church at noon; during the week at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Barry Corbett, pastor, Pelahatchie Church, evangelist; Leroy Stuart, Jr., Edwards, in charge of music; Frank Smith, pastor.

NORTH CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, honored its pastor, G. Ross Maroney, pictured, recently with a surprise birthday party. The party featured a birthday cake and climaxed with a surprise love present, a money tree, for the pastor.



Wilson

Three Mississippians were elected student council officers for the 1983-84 academic year at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Danny Wilson will be vice president; Jan Herring is secretary; and Dianne Price is a delegate-at-large. Wilson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Troy L.

Wilson of Corinth and is a 1980 graduate of Union University, Jackson, Tenn. Herring is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Herring, Jr. of Starkville and is a 1982 graduate of Mississippi State University. Price is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Price, Jr. of Jackson, and she is a 1980 graduate of MSU.



Thursday, May 26, 1983

## Just for the Record



EASTHAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH, BROOKHAVEN, on May 1 held a G.A. recognition service. G.A.s participating were: Emily Reid, April Moak, Heather Magee, Laurie Walker, Julie Hoggatt, Angela Segree, Ellen Holden, Cindy Eubanks, Stephanie Price, SuAnn Warren, Deanna Joyce, Melanie Callender, Lorie Sharp, Shanna Williamson, Pam Eubanks, Robin Kinnison, Tonya Warren, Joanna Joyce, Regina Rayborn, Rhonda Thompson, Paige Boyte, Jennifer Orr, Penny Lea, Dianne Kinnison, Tonya Davis, and Shannon Armstrong. Their leaders are Becky Callender, Jan Petry, Kay Orr, Arlene Crider, and Libby Holden. The G.A. director is Ellen Williamson and David Perry is the pastor.

The youth ministry of Colonial Hills Baptist Church, Southaven, will present a program of music, drama, and puppetry at Calvary Baptist Church, Batesville, on Wed., May 25, at 7:30 p.m. Calvary members extend an invitation to persons in the Batesville area, states Floyd F. Higginbotham, pastor. Mike Barham is the Calvary minister of music and youth.

Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church, Blue Mountain (Tippah) will hold Vacation Bible School, May 30-June 3, 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. daily for preschool through grade six. Youth will meet at 7 nightly. The commencement service will be held during the evening service June 5, at 7. Rick Spencer is the pastor.

## Revival continues at Woolmarket

At Woolmarket Baptist Church, Harrison County, according to John Sherman, chairman of deacons, "In the first three months under the ministry of our new pastor, Donnie Guy, our church has had additions every Sunday—totaling over 100. Our Sunday School has doubled in attendance, now running 300. Church Training has tripled, with attendance now averaging 175. We are completely out of Sunday School space, but we are making plans to build before summer is out.

"And the revival continues. We have started training our laymen in witnessing and have gotten our overall church involved in visiting. We have already broken all records. We are praising God for this, and praying that revival will continue."

## Corinth plans kick-off rally

Corinth Baptist Church, Jasper County, will host a "one service" Sunday night at 7:30, May 29, as a "Kick-off" rally for the E. J. Daniels crusade to be held the latter part of June. Daniels will be the speaker. All area churches are invited, says Edd Holloman, pastor at Corinth.

## Lebanon (Tippah) to mark centennial

Lebanon Baptist Church, Tippah County, will observe its 100-year anniversary on June 11 and 12, beginning Saturday night with a singing.

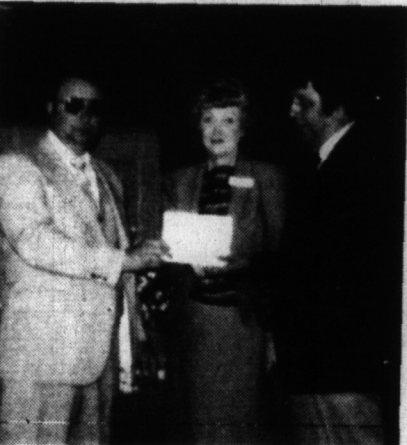
The 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday will feature singing and a brief history of the church. Bud Reeves is the pastor.

Morning: Family Traditions"; "Portrait of Healthy Families"; "Friends: A Neglected Secret of Family Strength"; "Coping with Family Conflict"; and "Christian Beliefs Which Tie Families Together."

On May 28, at the Bunker Hill Baptist Church at 6:30 p.m. the family life conference will "kick-off" with a special session for ministers and wives of the association.

Sunday afternoon, May 29, at 2:30 p.m., at Calvary Baptist Church, Denton will be addressing singles.

Monday and Tuesday morning, May 30 and 31, sessions will begin at 10 a.m. and Monday and Tuesday evening, May 30 and 31, sessions will begin at 7 p.m.



Shelly O. Adams, left, pastor of New Hope Church, present a love gift to Frank and Snow Serda, from the people of New Hope.

## Marion County plans family life meeting

Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia, will be the setting for the Marion County Baptist Association Family Life Conference on May 28-31.

Wallace Denton, speaker, writer, and professor of Family Life Studies at Purdue University, will lead conferences for both adults and youth. In addition, age graded studies in Christian family life will be held for children and preschoolers during the evening sessions only. A nursery will be provided for preschoolers for both morning and evening sessions.

Denton will speak on the following topics: "When Singles Look at Themselves"; "Hidden Biblical Truths for the Family"; "Sweet Rolls on Sunday

## New Hope honors new missionaries

New Hope Baptist Church, Leakesville, had a special missionary dedication service Sunday, May 1, for Frank and Snow Serda. The Serdas ministered to the people of Leakesville when he was pastor of the New Hope Church, 1973-76.

Frank and Snow have been approved and commissioned by the Foreign Mission Board, SBC. He will become production manager of Baptist Publications in Nairobi, Kenya, after completion of language school in Limuru, Kenya. Their address will be c/o Baptist Language School, Box 137, Limuru, Kenya, East Africa.

## Bible Book

## The kingdom of Judah

By Joe H. Tuten, pastor,  
Calvary, Jackson  
I Kings 14:21-15:24

The lesson this week is the last in the unit entitled, "The Kingdom Split Because of Apostasy." Solomon, who ruled over the twelve tribes combined into one nation, turned away from God. He built pagan places of worship for his many foreign wives. God's judgment upon Solomon was expressed by raising up adversaries who began to cause trouble for Solomon and the nation. Soon after Rehoboam, Solomon's son, ascended to the throne, the nation was split.

Jeroboam set up a separate kingdom composed of ten tribes which occupied the northern part of the land. Hence, that kingdom was called the northern kingdom, or Israel. That left Rehoboam with only Judah and the very small remnant of the tribe of Benjamin. These tribes lived in the southern portion of the land. Hence, that kingdom was called the southern kingdom, or Judah. It will be well for us to get these distinctions of the two kingdoms fixed in our minds.

The division of the united Kingdom, which had been ruled only by David and Solomon, and briefly by Rehoboam, occurred in 933 B.C. The united kingdom had lasted approximately 73 years. The divided kingdoms of Israel (10 tribes) and Judah (2 tribes) lived side by side approximately 210 years until the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed by the Assyrians in 722 B.C. Generally, the northern kingdom had one wicked king after the other. The southern kingdom had many wicked kings, but fortunately there occasionally would come a godly king to the throne, and he would establish some religious reforms. There were no such religious reforms in the northern kingdom, which might have kept Jehovah worship alive in the hearts of the people.

The southern kingdom of Judah continued approximately 125 years after the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed. The northern kingdom was destroyed, and those tribes are spoken of as the lost tribes of history. The southern kingdom of Judah was not destroyed. The people were carried into captivity by Babylon. They later returned to their land. After their return, they were called Jews. This is the group of whom Messiah sprang. They continue as a people today, both as the present nation of Israel and as groups living in the United States and other countries of the world.

Let us look briefly at the biblical

material of this week's lesson entitled, "Continuation of the Kingdom of Judah."

**Evil reign Of Rehoboam (I Kings 14:21-31).** Rehoboam was 41 years old when Solomon died and he became king. He was old enough, if he had been of godly character, to have made better decisions than he did. Actually, Solomon had led his own son and the nation far from God. Notice in verse 22 that it says, "Judah did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah." Paganism, with Solomon's encouragement, had spread widely among the people. The evils of pagan worship are described in verses 23 and 24. The problem was more than one man. The problem was paganism among the people. Solomon's reign had been free of war. Now, in the fifth year of his son's reign, not only had the kingdom split, but war with Egypt broke out (I Kings 14:25-28), and there was a continual war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam (I Kings 14:30).

**Evil reign Of Abijah (I Kings 15:1-8).** Rehoboam reigned over Judah only 17 years. Jeroboam reigned over Israel 22 years. So Jeroboam was still ruling in the north when Abijah came to the throne in the south. Abijah continued the evil policies of both Solomon, his grand-father, and Rehoboam, his father. The spread of paganism had now been encouraged by three kings with a combined reign of 60 years.

**Righteous reign Of Asa (I Kings 15:9-14).** Asa reigned 41 years. He had a singleness of devotion toward God. He was a righteous man, and his acts as king demonstrated such. He instituted strong religious reform designed to uproot the worst elements of pagan worship. During the early part of Asa's reign in the south, Jeroboam died in the north. Jeroboam's son reigned only two years before a long period of violence rocked the throne of the northern kingdom. Consequently, Asa and Judah had little trouble with the northern kingdom.

Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else.—Will Rogers

Christ's cross is the sweetest burden that ever I bare; it is such a burden as wings are to a bird or sails to a ship.—Samuel Rutherford.

I hate cynicism a great deal worse than I do the devil; unless, perhaps, the two were the same thing.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

## Uniform

## Paul in Rome

By John G. Armistead, pastor,  
Calvary, Tupelo  
Acts 28:11-24

Prince Hamlet lamented about "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" and "the heartache and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to." The country and western singer moans of "heartaches by the hundreds, troubles by the score." Times have not changed. In every generation people are tossed about on a sea of trouble. Family, health, and economic problems beset many. Others feel hurt, frustration, doubt, and loneliness. All of us are periodically caught in difficulties and disasters. And in the midst of all of this pain, we are called by God to bear loving witness to Christ's grace. Paul is an excellent example of one who constantly was able to turn the difficulties and disasters of life into opportunities to witness.

After the fiasco of Paul's trial before the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem, the Roman tribune sent Paul under a heavily armed guard to the provincial headquarters at Caesarea. The procurator of Judea, Marcus Antonius Felix, kept Paul in prison there for the next two years in order to appease the Jewish leaders. Felix's successor, Porcius Festus, decided to send Paul back to Jerusalem for another trial before the Sanhedrin.

Paul immediately exercised the right of every Roman citizen and appealed his case to Caesar. Probably his primary reason was that he saw in this an opportunity to witness to Emperor Nero in person. Consequently, Paul accompanied by Luke and Aristarchus, was shipped along with other prisoners on a grain ship bound for Rome. In the stormy winter waters of the Mediterranean, his ship was wrecked off the coast of the island of Malta (Melita).

**I. God-given answer to prayer (28:11-14).**

Three months later, Paul and his companions left Malta on another grain ship bound for Italy. They eventually docked at the port of Puteoli in the bay of Naples. Then they began the 140 mile overland trip to the capital city. Thus Luke writes, "So we went toward Rome."

Paul had long been praying for the opportunity to preach at Rome (cf., Rom. 1:9-10; 15:23-23). He had already announced he would go there after his last visit to Jerusalem (Acts 19:21). The possibility of getting to Rome seemed quite bleak when he was in his jail cell in Jerusalem, but Jesus encouraged him with the promise he

would indeed witness at Rome (Acts 23:11).

Now God had at last answered his prayers. However, God's answer was not at all the way Paul had envisioned it. No doubt he had thought of arriving at Rome a free man, visiting the synagogues and churches and preaching as he did in other cities. Instead, he arrived at Rome in the chains of a convict. Yet even these circumstances shall be used to bless Paul and his ministry.

**II. God-given encouragement (28:15).** Apparently Paul had many apprehensions about how he would be received by the Roman Christians. These sorts of anxieties are quite natural when one is about to achieve a long-cherished dream. Luke tells us that the news of Paul's arrival in Italy had reached Rome and Christian brothers walked out as far as the market towns of Appius Forum (40 miles from the city) and Three Taverns (30 miles away) to greet him. God used these brothers and sisters in Christ to lift Paul's spirit.

**III. God-given opportunities to witness (28:17-24).**

Once in Rome, Paul asked the Jewish elders to visit him. Being under arrest he could not go to them. He longed to share the gospel with his fellow Jews. Paul never gave up on his "kinsmen after the flesh" (cf., Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1). Witnessing was difficult because of the stigma of his arrest and his immobility (he was chained to a Roman soldier).

Paul proclaimed to these Jewish leaders the "hope of Israel," Jesus (v. 20). Although their initial response was negative (v. 22), they came back to listen to Paul's loving testimony from scriptures of the truth of Jesus. Paul spared no effort, witnessing to them from morning till evening (v. 23). The result was that some believed and some did not (v. 24). So is it always with the gospel of Christ.

Luke does not tell us about the death of Paul. He simply lets the curtain fall as he had earlier on Philip and Barnabas and Peter. That is because he was not telling the life of Paul, but the progress of the gospel. Now with the gospel firmly planted in the heart of the civilization of that time, he knows it will be fanned out by the Holy Spirit to the uttermost parts of the earth.

Courage is a special kind of knowledge: the knowledge of how to fear what ought to be feared and how not to fear what ought not to be feared.—David Ben-Gurion.

## Radio-TV appoints Barber v-p, development services

By Greg Warner

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Billy T. Barber, 52, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla., will become vice president of development services of the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio and Television Commission (RTVC) June 1.

The appointment was announced to RTVC trustees during their April 11-12 meeting. In other action, the board elected new officers, approved a plan for developing and distributing spot announcements on radio and television, and heard a report from RTVC President Jimmy R. Allen on implementation of the launch strategy for the American Christian Television System (ACTS).

In his position with the RTVC, Barber will direct the agency's fund raising efforts through major gifts and direct mail and supervise the promotion and audience response department.

He succeeds John Scales, who became director of development at Baylor University in 1981.

The trustees voted to budget approximately \$180,000 per year, beginning in 1984-85, for more television and radio

spot announcements to run on public service (donated) air time. The spots would deal with ethical and moral concerns and be sent to all cable stations at a rate of eight per year. Under the plan, the project could begin in the 1983-84 budget year if additional funding can be found.

In his president's report, Allen said the RTVC had begun implementing a task force strategy authorized by the trustees in January for launch of ACTS in 1984. He reported major renovations on studio and editing facilities are nearing completion.

Allen said receptivity is growing in cable television, and advertising industry for the ACTS plan of programming and program sponsorship.

He also noted recent cancellation of some cultural exchange tours between the United States and China would not affect the trip planned for the RTVC Centurymen later this year since the invitation came from Shanghai Television and not the Chinese government.

New officers elected are: Stewart R. McChesney Jr., Arvada, Colo., chairman; John E. Roberts, Greenville, S.C., first vice chairman; T. W. Ter-

ral, Baton Rouge, La., second vice chairman, and Laverne Butler, Louisville, Ky., recording secretary.

The board authorized the formation of a non-profit corporation, ACTS Satellite Network, Inc., which will distribute ACTS programming to cable television systems. The RTVC trustees will constitute the board of trustees of the new corporation. The action was taken in part to clarify the nature of ACTS for cable system operators.

In its January meeting, the board committed itself to raise \$130,000 for the RTVC. As a first step, members themselves pledged \$33,300 during the April session. They plan to contact other prospective donors, including former trustees. The board will study the possibility of a revolving loan program to assist churches in building television stations to carry ACTS.

(Warner writes for the RTVC.)

## Missionary's father dies

Oran Euclid Wolfe, 75, died April 23 at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, Tenn., after eleven weeks of illness. He was the father of Paulette Wolfe Kellum, former missionary to Vietnam, now serving with the Home Mission Board at Bartlett, Tenn.

Wolfe was born Sept. 6, 1907, in Water Valley, Miss. He had been a resident of Clarksdale most of his adult life and was an employee of Continental Baking Co. for more than 32 years. He was a member of Oakhurst Baptist Church. Funeral services were held at Oakhurst Church, with his son-in-law, James Kellum, officiating.

Survivors other than Paulette Kellum include Wolfe's wife, Lucille Houston Wolfe; a son, O. E. "Bubba" Wolfe, Jr., Clarksdale; two sisters; two brothers, and six grandchildren.

## Off the Record

Boss: "Well, did you read the letter I sent you?"

Secretary: "Oh, yes, sir. It said, 'you're fired' on the inside but on the outside it said 'Return in 5 days' so here I am."

Remark to pastor after worship service: "Every sermon you preach is better than the next one."

Three S's for speaking: Stand up to be seen, speak up to be heard, and sit down to be appreciated.

## Life and Work

## The character of God's people

By Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor,  
First, Meridian  
Isaiah 56:3, 6-8 58:6-9

There's an old saying, "Whose mind is changed against his will is of the same opinion still." Circumstances dictate cooperation many times that is of brief duration. Peace exists that is so fragile it amounts to merely a "cessation of hostilities."

The United States and Russia were allies during a brief period when their mutual fear of an aggressor (Hitler's Germany) caused vastly different societies to band together for protection. Predatory animals such as lions, tigers, jaguars, etc., huddle with their erstwhile favorite menus (i.e. antelopes, rabbits, ground squirrels) when a raging forest fire sends them into a watering hole for protection.

Here God is talking about helpful, compassionate acts flowing from grateful hearts filled with God's love. This being the case, differences of all kinds cease to be a barrier between the Jews and Gentiles. Before, many people were eliminated from Judaism by the legalism of the oral traditions. Now a union is built purely on faith that is lasting and truly rewarding.

**Human fences vs. divine love (56:3-6, 8).**

Jewish nationalism both in the Old and New Testaments drew a circle around the "chosen" people of Israel and excluded other people. Through becoming a proselyte to Judaism entrance could be gained, although some because of physical deformity could never enter the circle. Such was the case of the Ethiopian eunuch who, though intensely interested in the moral teachings of Judaism, could never join because of his emasculation. Phillip introduced him to the Lord who received everyone on the basis of faith and belief alone. Jesus taught that those who would seek him in spirit and in truth would find him anywhere at any time. His house was a "house of prayer" for all nations.

The tendency to exclude persons by no means died with the coming of the "Christian era." The situations that resulted in people being considered unfit differ but the practice is still universally operative. Sometimes it is a "dress code," while at other times it is racially mandated. Economic considerations may be the determining factor or perhaps the place of employment may make one an "undesirable." Social mores have too frequently resulted in snubbing of those with long or facial hair or who may belong to a trade union or different political party. Isaiah insists that the sanctuary is

"God's house" and as such should be directed to the needs of all persons. God is no respecter of persons and expects Christian people to be the same way.

"... Ye have done it unto me" (Isa. 58:6, 7).

Jesus practiced fasting during his days in the flesh, but never according to the religious calendar. The ritual in itself had no more meaning to him than the laws of purification which he repeatedly broke. The only way his example teaches fasting is in prayer and worship which so occupied his whole attention he forgot to concern himself with food. We never could convince a person we loved him by simply foregoing food. In our concern about the well-being of loved ones, food may well cease to be attractive to us. A worried parent at the bedside of a sick child loses his appetite frequently. Engrossed in a highly important work, a person may skip a meal.

Isaiah teaches that the ritual has no meaning. Only concern and compassion for hungry and needy people relates one to the Father in his program of loving service.

**Benefits galore result (58:8, 9).**

If it were not enough just to meet urgent needs of the poor and outcast the piles on added incentives. God's love can then be experienced even as a child his parents! When he lives in harmony with their wishes. God's power flowing within will bring healing from moral diseases and freedom from destructive passions. Spiritual priorities will take precedence over material aggressiveness. As in Psalm 23 he rejoices that God's personal presence will accompany him always.

Isaiah never got away from his experience in the temple as a young man. Seeing the Lord "high and lifted up," confessing his sins and feeling the relief of their purging, he heard the call to missions. "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" He was never sorry he had volunteered. "Here am I, send me." He urges Israel not only to talk about and read about ministry in God's service but to perform it.

Mob courage is cowardice.—Gladys Hunt.

Dying men have said that they were sorry that they had lived as an atheist, skeptic, agnostic, or sinner; but no man has ever said on his deathbed: "I'm sorry that I'm a Christian."

When a thing is funny, search it for a hidden truth.—George Bernard Shaw.